#### UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Farm Service Agency Washington, DC 20250

For: State and County Offices

**Notice FLP-452** 

1951-S, 1955-A, 1962-A, 1965-A

# **Continuing the State Civil Rights Review Groups for the Review of Pending Acceleration and Foreclosure Cases**

**Approved by:** Deputy Administrator, Farm Loan Programs

Carolyn B. Cooksie

Note: No acceleration or subsequent actions on foreclosures are to proceed until compliance with this notice is achieved.

#### 1 Overview

## A Background

The State Civil Rights Review Group reviews all pending acceleration and foreclosure cases.

**Note:** Acceleration also occurs when borrowers enter into a voluntary liquidation agreement with FSA.

## **B** Purpose

This notice:

- continues the processes established in previous notices for State civil rights self-certification
- addresses cases of voluntary liquidation, failure to graduate, and nonprogram loans
- obsoletes Notice FLP-410.

#### C Contact

Direct any questions about this notice to Veldon Hall, LSPMD, at 202-720-4572.

Disposal Date	Distribution
April 1, 2008	State Offices; State Offices relay to County Offices

3-22-07 Page 1

#### **Notice FLP-452**

#### 2 Action

### A Reviewing Cases To Be Accelerated

Each State Office shall use the State Civil Rights Review Group to determine whether inconsistencies, discrimination, or inequitable treatment contributed to the failure of the farming operation.

Each member of the group must have an equal voice. The group should consist of the following:

- SED
- Farm Loan Chief
- State Civil Rights Coordinator.

### B Farm Loan Manager (FLM) and DD Responsibilities

Before referring the account for acceleration according to RD Instruction 1955-A, Section 1955.15(c), FLM must comply with:

- FmHA Instruction 1951-S, Section 1951.907(e)(8) that requires the completion of FSA-580
- RD Instruction 1955-A, Section 1955.15(b).

While completing the review required under RD Instruction 1955-A, Section 1955.15(c), DD's shall complete FSA-581, Part A. If the account qualifies for acceleration, FSA-581 will be forwarded to the State Office with FSA-580, which was previously completed by FLM.

In cases where the borrower contacts FSA about a voluntary liquidation agreement and RD 455-3 and/or RD 455-4 are to be executed, FSA-580 and FSA-581 must also be completed by FLM and/or DD and reviewed by the State Civil Rights Review Group.

**Note:** FSA-580 is not required, but FSA-581 shall be completed by DD and reviewed by the State Civil Rights Review Group:

- for cases referred for acceleration/foreclosure because of the borrower's failure to graduate
- before the acceleration of nonprogram loans.

3-22-07 Page 2

#### **Notice FLP-452**

## **2** Action (Continued)

#### C State Review Procedure

The State Civil Rights Review Group shall:

- review FSA-580 and FSA-581, Part A
- complete FSA-581, Part B.

FSA-581, Part C must be signed by the members of the review group to indicate that no evidence of inconsistencies, inequitable treatment, or discrimination complaints, written or oral, exists and the borrower has received all applicable primary loan servicing options before proceeding with acceleration and foreclosure.

After the members of the State Civil Rights Review Group sign FSA-581, the State Office will return FSA-581 and the case file to DD. If no inconsistencies, inequitable treatment, or discrimination is identified, DD may approve the acceleration.

If inconsistencies, inequitable treatment, or discrimination is found, State Offices must immediately FAX a copy of FSA-581 to the Director, OCR, at 202-401-7100.

**Reminder:** Do **not** send FSA-581 to the National Office unless inconsistencies, discrimination, or inequitable treatment is identified.

3-22-07 Page 3